

REMEDICATION AND REDEVELOPMENT (RR) NEWS FROM WISCONSIN DNR

August 1, 2002

DON'T FORGET! AUG 21 VIDEOCONFERENCE ON BROWNFIELDS \$\$

Interested in getting a share of brownfields grant and loans? DNR, the Wisconsin Department of Commerce and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are holding a free videoconference on 7 state and federal brownfield grant and loan programs worth \$160 million. The training will be held at 14 locations across the state on August 21, from 8:30 to 12:30. This information is intended to help towns, villages, cities, counties, tribes, non-profits, community development authorities, redevelopment authorities, housing authorities, developers, and trusts find funding to help investigate, clean up, and reuse their brownfield properties. The registration deadline is AUGUST 16. Space is filling up, so sign up soon! For free on-line registration and additional information, visit our web site at:

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/rbrownfields/index.htm#change> If you don't have web access, please call Jessica Milz at 608-267-0559 or Andrew Savagian at 608-261-6422 to register.

DNR PROPOSES BROWNFIELDS GREEN SPACE AND PUBLIC FACILITIES GRANTS

At the August 13-14 Natural Resources Board (NRB) meeting in Two Rivers, the RR program will request adoption of ch. NR 173, creating a new grant program to pay for the cleanup of contaminated properties. The 2001-2003 state budget authorized DNR to create a rule to administer a new Brownfields Green Space and Public Facilities Grant Program. The statute allows the department to award a total of \$1 million to local governments for remediation of brownfields where the end use will have a long-term public benefit. Eligible end uses include preservation of green space, development of recreational areas or use by a local government. The proposed rule describes program requirements and procedures and has been submitted to the NRB for adoption as both a permanent rule and as an interim emergency rule. The rule language includes only a few minor changes to the version that was sent to the NRB in April to request authorization for public hearings. DNR plans to have grant applications available by September of 2002. Any questions about this rule should be directed to Michael Prager at (608) 261-4927 or Michael.Prager@dnr.state.wi.us. The proposed rule, the background memo, and the response to comments on the rule are up on the Remediation and Redevelopment web site under "Proposed Revisions to Administrative Codes" at

http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/wi_regs/index.htm

REMINDER - SOIL GIS REGISTRY EFFECTIVE TODAY

Rule changes that expand DNR's GIS Registry of Closed Remediation Sites to include residual contamination in soil (as well as groundwater) become effective today. Placing this information on the internet is a means of notifying future owners/users of these properties of the existence of residual soil contamination. Public notices will no longer be required when closure is approved with a soil performance standard, and most deed notices will no longer be needed. If a site is on the registry with soil contamination it means that no further cleanup is required, but residual soil contamination may need to be treated or disposed of if excavated. The registry includes all affected properties - if contamination originated on one property and crossed the property line, both properties will appear on the registry. Local governments, buyers, lenders, developers, realtors, consultants

and others can use the registry to find contaminant data and basic information about the cleanup. The rule changes also clarify the application of deed restrictions for soil contamination as a condition of case closure. Deed restrictions require or limit an action, or designate a land use classification. Deed restrictions will be required when: 1) industrial residual contaminant levels (RCLs) are used as the site specific soil standard, 2) the degree and extent of soil contamination has not been fully investigated due to a structural impediment, 3) a cap over soil contamination prevents infiltration that would contribute to an exceedence of groundwater standards, or 4) a cap over soil contamination prevents contact with soil that is above the direct contact RCL in the top 4 feet of soil. Information on fees for the registry was included in the July 16 "RR News from DNR". In summary, there is a new \$200 fee, payable to DNR, for sites with residual soil contamination that will be included on the registry. For more information please see the 4/02/02 item on our Regulations web page at http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/wi_regs/index.htm#anchor74198 and our "Guidance for Electronic Submittals for the GIS Registry of Closed Remediation Sites" at <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/archives/pubs/RR690.pdf> If you have questions about the rule changes, you may contact Dale Ziege at 608-267-7533, or Dale.Ziege@dnr.state.wi.us

PILOT PROJECT IN SCR - PUBLIC ACCESS COMPUTERS

DNR's South Central Region (SCR) has installed computer terminals for public use in each of its Service Centers - Janesville, Fitchburg, Horicon and Dodgeville. These terminals are intended for public access to any internet page owned or maintained by DNR. They can't be used for general internet browsing. People may use the terminals to browse DNR's web site and purchase fishing and hunting licenses, reserve campsites, read general information, and view any of DNR's many databases on the internet. For example, the RR Program's Bureau for Remediation and Redevelopment's Tracking System (BRRTS) and GIS Registry of Closed Remediation Sites are accessible at these terminals. In addition, detailed reports on site investigation and remedial actions at certain SCR sites that have been submitted in electronic format (e.g. Badger Army Ammunition Plant), can be viewed on-line in these offices. Users of these terminals should be somewhat computer literate (able to surf the web) to successfully use these terminals. DNR is not able to offer computer instruction or support for public users. However, the system has been set up to be easy to navigate and conduct transactions.

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